

Tennessee

SOURCE: Rules of the Tennessee Department of Health and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Chapter 1200-4-3 General Water Quality Criteria, revised October 1999:

<http://www.state.tn.us/sos/rules/1200/1200-04/1200-04-03.pdf> and www.state.tn.us/environment

1200-4-3-.03 Criteria for Water Uses:

(3) Fish and Aquatic Life.

- (j) Biological Integrity - The waters shall not be modified through the addition of pollutants or through physical alteration to the extent that the diversity and/or productivity of aquatic biota within the receiving waters are substantially decreased or adversely affected, except as allowed under 1200-4-3-.06. The condition of biological communities will be measured by use of metrics suggested in guidance such as Rapid Bioassessment Protocols for Use in Streams and Rivers (EPA/444/4-89-001) or other scientifically defensible methods. Effects to biological populations will be measured by comparisons to upstream conditions or to appropriately selected reference sites in the same ecoregion.